

From: KISSELL814@aol.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/28/02 10:51pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

The free enterprise system in the United States has been the catalyst for making the United States the greatest country in the world. Within the system, there will be winners and losers. Microsoft is perhaps the biggest winner of all time; they have created and marketed a product that satisfies the needs of an expanding market all over the globe.

The government has no business meddling into the affairs of Microsoft, or any other business. Microsoft used its own ingenuity and market know-how to achieve the level of success it has. The entire lawsuit between Microsoft and the US government has become a forum for Microsoft's competitors to tear a piece of Microsoft's success away.

Microsoft has agreed to permanent government oversight in the form of the three-person "Technical Committee." This in and of itself should silence most any critic of Microsoft, but the settlement also agrees to make trade secrets such as operating system protocols and interfaces available to its competition as well.

I have strong reservations about this settlement, but if this is what Microsoft wants, than I will support the company. Microsoft performed as any company would in the open market, and has been duly rewarded. The federal government needs to end the litigation and let free enterprise and the market determine the final outcome for Microsoft and its competitors.

Sincerely,
Richard Kissell
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